

S-E-C-R-E-T

26 December 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Bureau Chiefs

FROM : Acting Chief, FBIS

SUBJECT : Letter of Information

GENERAL

1. A Special Memorandum on initial communist bloc and free world radio and press reaction to the President's IZVESTIYA interview was prepared for the President on 30 November, with copies for the Secretary of State. Advance copies were handed to the Director just before his meeting with the President that afternoon. Beginning the next day, and continuing through 6 December, 50X1 FBID was made responsible for furnishing the White House with daily Agency roundups of world reaction to the interview, incorporating material from OCI

[redacted] Copies continued to be sent to the Secretary of State, the DCI, the DDCI, and the DD/I. The close watch on world reaction to the interview by FBIS field bureaus, which supplemented textual material with some useful FYI's, played a major part in this project. The great bulk of the information on world reaction available to the Agency was from FBIS sources. [redacted] 50X1

2. FBID resumed its support of the U.S. delegation to the Geneva nuclear test ban talks on 27 November, the day before the talks reopened. Daily RPB analyses were cabled to the delegation through OCI, and texts of key items were wirefiled directly to Geneva by the London Bureau. This service is continuing. [redacted] 50X1

3. Fidel Castro's 2 December speech, in which he publicly professed his long-time adherence to Marxism, produced almost unprecedented consumer reaction. Following the original summary processing by East Coast Bureau, a barrage of high-level requests for expanded treatment led to a textual Spanish transcription of significant portions of the speech, an expanded translated version of those portions, and, finally, at the request of the Secretary of State, a full textual translation. Working against a 24-hour deadline, a hastily recruited task force composed of three State Department translators and a Spanish language stenographer, three FDD translators, the entire off-duty East Coast Bureau Spanish staff and several administrative and editorial personnel with monitoring experience, began work at noon on 8 December and finished the text of the 5-hour speech at approximately 0600 the following morning. In order to free as much manpower as possible, several East Coast Bureau coverage commitments were taken over temporarily by Santa Rosa. It was estimated that about eighteen man-days' effort went into this project. Continuing requests over the following week led to the decision to publish the text as a supplement to the Latin American Daily Report on 14 December. [redacted] 50X1

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5. FBIS has agreed, in response to an Interdepartmental request, to undertake an initial count of foreign broadcast transmitters in operation. After completion of this count, records will be maintained by the interested agencies from information supplied in the weekly Station and Program Notes. The first part of the FBIS contribution, which includes all countries of Latin America, has been forwarded to clients at State, USIA, and Commerce. The initial count is scheduled to be completed by next June. [REDACTED]

50X1

6. Because of poor circuit performance of the FBIS allocated circuit between Tokyo and Headquarters, (routed via Seattle), the Defense Communication Agency assigned FBIS a new circuit path which is routed via San Francisco. To permit immediate use of the new path, the existing local circuit at the terminal was transferred to the new circuit. When a second local circuit, which is being requisitioned, is obtained, FBIS will have two trans-Pacific allocated circuits. To modernize the Tokyo Bureau communications center, the requisition of several modern relay units capable of 60 wpm and/or 100 wpm operations is being considered. [REDACTED]

50X1

7. The IBM runs for the publication "Broadcasting Stations of the World" were completed by OCR during the month. The material has been turned over to Printing Services Division which will negotiate the printing contracts with the Government Printing Office. PSD estimates that the publication should be available for distribution in February 1962. [REDACTED]

50X1

8. The Mediterranean Bureau recently procured special equipment to enable it to cover TASS radioteletype transmissions which are superimposed on Moscow domestic longwave frequencies. Material from these circuits is now being sampled and will be compared with that from circuits already on coverage. Initial reception is reported as satisfactory. [REDACTED]

50X1

9. [REDACTED] of the BIS returned to Headquarters in mid-December having completed six weeks temporary duty at the Key West Post where he conducted a special Cuban cruising survey and assisted the Chief of the Post in routine monitoring activities. [REDACTED]

50X1

50X1

10. FBIS Wire service to the office of the Deputy Director (Intelligence) was discontinued 29 November. Items of interest to that office will be forwarded in the future by the OCI watch officer. [REDACTED]

50X1

11. Of 200 items included in the Current Intelligence Digest during November, 60 (30 percent) were based wholly or in part on FBIS monitoring. [REDACTED]

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12. During the month 87 percent of Daily Report pages were devoted to broadcast material and 13 percent to press scrutiny. To reduce a heavy backlog of East Europe material during the first half of December, about 350 pages of East German, Polish, Czechoslovak, and Yugoslav press scrutiny items were turned over to FDD for publication. [redacted]

50X1

13. Certificates in recognition of at least ten years' honorable service with the Organization, signed by Mr. Allen W. Dulles, were distributed to [redacted] FBIS classified employees. [redacted]

PROPAGANDA ANALYSIS COMMENT

50X1

1. Radio Propaganda Reports Issued:

50X1

- a. "Soviet Policy Dispute Over Resource Allocation"
- b. "Soviet Propaganda on Space Programming"
- c. "Proposed Merger of Soviet Party and State Control Agencies"

2. A propaganda analysis item on the FBIS Wire discussed a shift in Soviet comment on the Congo, involving increased criticism of the Kasavubu - Adoula regime.

3. As of 15 December, 174 analyses of communist propaganda had been cabled to the U.S. delegation at the Geneva conference on Laos.

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U-N-C-L-A-S-S-I-F-I-E-D

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

GENERAL

1. Items on Burmese representation in international communist gatherings require extra care in handling because there are two communist parties in Burma with similar names -- the orthodox "Burma Communist Party" and the Trotskyite "Communist Party of Burma." The BCP comprises the "White Flag communists" led by Thakin Than Tun and the CPB the "Red Flag communists" led by Thakin Soe. When it is impossible to distinguish between the two parties, the fact should be stated in an editorial note.

2. The following aspects of FYI's merit review:

a. Since an FYI is already an editor's note, there is no place for editor's notes within parentheses. Asides can be indicated either by dashes when the format permits or by the use of parentheses without an "editor's note" attribution. This, of course, is not possible when a portion is being quoted and the parenthetical material may be interpreted as indicating textual material badly received.

b. Sourcelines in FYI's primarily meant for the FBIS Wire should be complete, with articles and prepositions, and the body of the FYI should be phrased in easily understandable English, without cablese or other jargon.

c. Speeches by major world figures inevitably elicit queries from consumers as to content and emphasis. To permit the FBIS Wire, the DAILY REPORT editors, RPB, and the Projects Staff to answer such questions intelligently, it is important that the field provide some indication quickly as to the substance of such speeches or pronouncements even when the content is drab and does not appear to merit priority texting, the filing of a preliminary running summary, or rapid excerpting of segments of special interest. The information required can be submitted in the form of an FYI broadly sketching the content and noting subjects covered, together with the usual factual data concerning starting and concluding times of broadcast, estimated length of item, and tentative bureau timetable for completion of text. The substantive portion might resemble the paragraphs normally included in the area roundups which some bureaus provide. This paragraph is to be considered an elaboration of the requirement forwarded in administrative message WA 819 of 29 November 1961.

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3. An important adjunct of the editorial process whether in headquarters or the field is prompt proofreading of filed copy to insure that the material was sent in proper form and without dropped phrases or words. Subsequent prompt filing of corrections when necessary immeasurably reduces the number of queries and results in dissemination of more accurate information.

ENGINEERING AND FIELD OPERATIONS

1. Tests are being conducted at the East Coast Bureau on a different type magnetic belt recorder. The units are small and may be suitable for use in mobile emergency monitoring assemblies and other operations. The equipment is manufactured by the Comptometer Corporation.

2. The African Bureau Operations Building interior construction is approaching completion. Work on the remaining two houses is progressing satisfactorily with completion of the third house expected in December.

3. Progress continues on the London Bureau elevator installation project. The steel support structure and motor house have been erected and brick work is underway.

ADMINISTRATION

1. First-class jet is not authorized for air travel within the United States. If an employee travels by jet he must travel tourist class.

2. Bureaus requesting travel orders are requested to list dates of birth of children and not simply the age of the child.

3. Checks for any type Government Life Insurance (WAEPA, UBLIC) or Dread Disease, Emergency Travel Insurance, etc., are made out to "GEHA, Inc." Any check made out other than to GEHA, Inc. is unacceptable for payment.

4. When preparing travel vouchers in the field it is requested that the date the employee reports for duty be stated on the voucher.

5. Property Accountability. Surplus property acquired without expenditure of funds must be given a new unit cost when picked up in the Bureau financial property accounting system.

6. Health insurance claims for foreign nationals should never be submitted on Form 1718, which is for classified employees only. Claims should be submitted by memorandum with a statement by the Bureau Chief or Administrative Officer that he will accept responsibility for receiving a settlement check in his name and converting and paying same to the foreign national.

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The rate of exchange should be noted on the claim as well as an English translation if the bill is in a foreign language. Claims can be settled more expeditiously if all of the required information is submitted at the same time.

7. Classified personnel presenting health insurance claims should be certain a complete diagnosis of their illness or injury is stated on the doctor's bill. Several bills have been returned because of incomplete statements on bills.

8. Foreign national personnel may not convert their health insurance plans to private policies upon retirement or resignation.

9. The following FBIS regulatory issuances were disseminated:

STAT

PERSONNEL NOTES

1. New Employees

Assignment

Monitor
West Coast Bureau

Monitor
West Coast Bureau

STAT

2. Reassignments

From

To

Operations Officer Deputy Chief
Mediterranean Bureau East Coast Bureau

Editor Senior Editor
Mediterranean Bureau West Coast Bureau

Deputy Chief Acting Chief, ME, AF,
East Coast Bureau WE, LA Section
Editorial Branch

Monitor Operations Officer
West Coast Bureau Hokkaido Bureau

Editor Editor
Mediterranean Bureau African Bureau

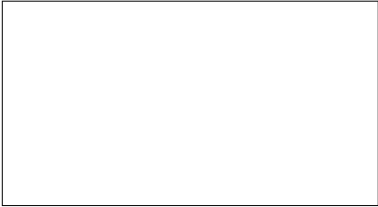
STAT

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(cont.) Reassignments



From

Editor
Austrian Bureau

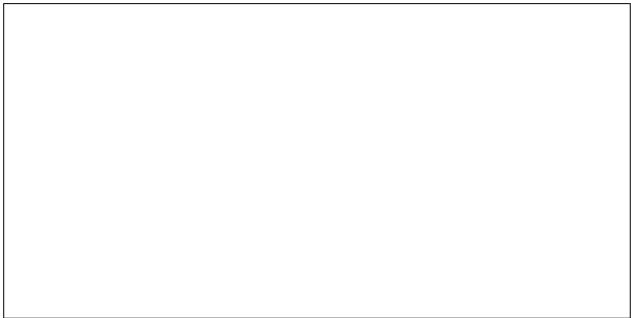
Editor
Editorial Branch

To

Senior Editor
Mediterranean Bureau

Editor
East Coast Bureau

STAT



STAT

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